## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

RYALS et al.

SERIAL NO.: To Be Assigned

FILED: Even Date Herewith

TITLE: GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN INVOLVED IN THE SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION CASCADE LEADING TO SYSTEMIC ACQUIRED RESISTANCE IN PLANTS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX: PATENT APPLICATION U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and commencement of substantive examination of the above-referenced application, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendment.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-32 without prejudice or disclaimer.

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Date: February 19, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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